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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is $-\text{CR}_7$;

B is $-\text{NR}_1\text{R}_2$, $-\text{CR}_1\text{R}_2\text{R}_{11}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{CR}_2\text{R}_{12})\text{R}_1$, $-\text{NHCHR}_1\text{R}_2$, $-\text{OCHR}_1\text{R}_2$, $-\text{SCHR}_1\text{R}_2$, $-\text{CHR}_2\text{OR}_1$, $-\text{CHR}_1\text{OR}_2$, $-\text{CHR}_2\text{SR}_1$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}_2$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}_2$, $-\text{CHR}_2\text{NR}_1\text{R}_2$, $-\text{CHR}_1\text{NHR}_2$, $-\text{CHR}_1\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)\text{R}_2$, or $-\text{NR}_{12}\text{NR}_1\text{R}_2$;

Z is NH , O , S , $-\text{N}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2 \text{ alkyl})$, $-\text{NC}(\text{O})\text{CF}_3$, or $-\text{C}(\text{R}_{13}\text{R}_{14})$, wherein R_{13} and R_{14} are each, independently, hydrogen, trifluoromethyl or methyl, or one of R_{13} and R_{14} is cyano and the other is hydrogen or methyl, or $-\text{C}(\text{R}_{13}\text{R}_{14})$ is a cyclopropyl group, or Z is nitrogen or CH and forms a five or six membered heterocyclic ring fused with R_5 , which ring optionally includes two or three further hetero members selected independently from oxygen, nitrogen, NR_{12} , and $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$, and optionally includes from one to three double bonds, and is optionally substituted with halo, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, $-\text{O}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4 \text{ alkyl})$, NH_2 , NHCH_3 , $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, CF_3 , or OCF_3 , with the proviso that said ring does not include any $-\text{S-S-}$, $-\text{S-O-}$, $-\text{N-S-}$, or $-\text{O-O-}$ bonds, and does not include more than two oxygen or $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$ heterologous members;

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R_1 is C(O)H, C(O)(C₁-C₆ alkyl), C(O)(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), C(O)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), C(O)(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), -C(O)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), or -O-aryl, or -O-(C₁-C₆ alkylene)-aryl; wherein said aryl, C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene, and C₁-C₆ alkylene groups may each independently be optionally substituted with from one to six fluoro and may each independently be optionally substituted with one or two substituents R_8 independently selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₄ alkyl, -C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, hydroxy, chloro, bromo, iodo, CF₃, -O-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -O-(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl), -O-CO-(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -O-CO-NH(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -O-CO-N(R₂₄)(R₂₅), -N(R₂₄)(R₂₅), -S(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -S(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl), -N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)CO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -NHCO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -COO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -CONH(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -CON(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), CN, NO₂, -OSO₂(C₁-C₄ alkyl), S⁺(C₁-C₆ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl)I⁻, -SO(C₁-C₄ alkyl) and -SO₂(C₁-C₄ alkyl); and wherein the C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkylene, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene, and C₃-C₈ heterocycloalkyl moieties of R_1 may optionally independently include from one to three double or triple bonds; and wherein the C₁-C₄ alkyl moieties and C₁-C₆ alkyl moieties of R_8 can optionally independently be substituted with hydroxy, amino, C₁-C₄ alkyl, aryl, -CH₂-aryl, C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl, or -O-(C₁-C₄ alkyl), and can optionally independently be substituted with from one to six fluoro, and can optionally include one or two double or triple bonds; and wherein each heterocycloalkyl group of R_1 includes from one to three heteromoieties selected from oxygen, S(O)_m, nitrogen, and NR₁₂;

R_2 is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), aryl, -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)aryl, or -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(aryl); wherein each of the foregoing R_2 groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, and C₁-C₆ alkyl, wherein one of said one to three substituents can further be selected from bromo, iodo, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, -OH, -O-CO-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -O-CO-N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -S(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -S(O)(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -S(O)₂(C₁-C₆ alkyl), S⁺(C₁-C₆ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl)I⁻, CN, and NO₂; and wherein the C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, -(C₁-C₆ alkylene), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene), and -(C₃-C₈ heterocycloalkyl) moieties of R_2 may optionally independently include from one to three double or triple bonds; and wherein each heterocycloalkyl group of R_2 includes from one to three heteromoieties selected from oxygen, S(O)_m, nitrogen, and NR₁₂;

or when R_1 and R_2 are as in -NHCHR₁R₂, -OCHR₁R₂, -SCHR₁R₂, -CHR₁R₂ or -NR₁R₂, R_1 and R_2 of B may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered ring which may optionally include one or two double bonds and in which one or two of the ring carbons may optionally be replaced by an oxygen,

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$S(O)_m$, nitrogen or NR_{12} ; and which ring can optionally be substituted with from 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, CF_3 , -O- $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -O-CO- $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -O-CO-NH $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -O-CO-N $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl) $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl), -NH $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -N $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl) $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -S $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -N $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl)CO $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -NHCO $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -COO $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -CONH $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -CON $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl) $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl), CN, NO_2 , -OSO $_2$ $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -SO $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), and -SO $_2$ $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), wherein one of said one to three substituents can further be selected from phenyl;

R_3 is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, methoxy, OCF_3 , NH_2 , NH $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl), N $(CH_3)_2$, -NHCOCF $_3$, -NHCH $_2$ CF $_3$, $S(O)_m$ $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), CONH $_2$, -CONHCH $_3$, CON $(CH_3)_2$, -CF $_3$, or CH $_2$ OCH $_3$;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene) $(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkyl), $-(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkylene) $(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkyl), cyano, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, -OR $_{24}$, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, -O $(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkyl), -O $(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene) $(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkyl), -O $(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkylene) $(C_3$ - C_5 cycloalkyl), -CH $_2$ SC(S)O $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -CH $_2$ OCF $_3$, CF_3 , amino, nitro, -NR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene)-OR $_{24}$, $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene)Cl, $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene)NR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -NHCOR $_{24}$, -NHCONR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -C=NOR $_{24}$, -NHNOR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -S $(O)_m$ R $_{24}$, -C(O)R $_{24}$, -OC(O)R $_{24}$, -C(O)CN, -C(O)NR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -C(O)NHNOR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, and -COOR $_{24}$, wherein the alkyl and alkylene groups of R_4 may optionally independently include one or two double or triple bonds and may optionally independently be substituted with one or two substituents R_{10} independently selected from hydroxy, amino, -NHCOCH $_3$, -NHCOCH $_2$ Cl, -NH $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl), -N $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl) $(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl), -COO $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), -COOH, -CO $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl), C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_3 thioalkyl, cyano and nitro, and with one to four substituents independently selected from fluoro and chloro;

R_5 is aryl or heteroaryl and is substituted with from one to four substituents R_{27} independently selected from halo, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene) $(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene) $(C_4$ - C_8 heterocycloalkyl), $-(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_4$ - C_8 heterocycloalkyl), $-(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkylene) $(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkylene) $(C_4$ - C_8 heterocycloalkyl), C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_4 haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, -NR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -NR $_{24}$ COR $_{25}$, -NR $_{24}$ CO $_2$ R $_{26}$, -COR $_{24}$, -OR $_{25}$, -CONR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -CO(NOR $_{22}$)R $_{23}$, -CO $_2$ R $_{26}$, -C=N(OR $_{22}$)R $_{23}$, and -S $(O)_m$ R $_{23}$; wherein said C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, $(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene), $(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkyl), $(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkylene), and $(C_4$ - C_8 heterocycloalkyl) groups can be optionally substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, $(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene) $(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkylene) $(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkyl), C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, nitro halo, cyano, -NR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, -NR $_{24}$ COR $_{25}$, -NR $_{24}$ CO $_2$ R $_{26}$, -COR $_{24}$, -OR $_{25}$, -CONR $_{24}$ R $_{25}$, CO $_2$ R $_{26}$, -CO(NOR $_{22}$)R $_{25}$, and -S $(O)_m$ R $_{23}$; and wherein two adjacent substituents of the R_5 group can optionally form a 5-7 membered ring, saturated or unsaturated, fused to R^5 , which ring optionally can [contain] include one, two, or three heterologous members independently selected from O, $S(O)_m$, and N, but not any

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-S-S-, -O-O-, -S-O-, or -N-S- bonds, and which ring is optionally substituted with C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, nitro, halo, cyano -NR₂₄R₂₅, NR₂₄COR₂₅, NR₂₄CO₂R₂₆, -COR₂₄, -OR₂₅, -CONR₂₄R₂₅, CO₂R₂₆, -CO(NOR₂₆)R₂₅, or -S(O)_mR₂₃; wherein one of said one to four optional substituents R₂₇ can further be selected from -SO₂NH(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -SO₂NH(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -SO₂NH(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -SO₂NH(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -SO₂N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -SO₂NH₂, -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -NHSO₂(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), and -NHSO₂(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl); and wherein the alkyl, and alkylene groups of R₅ may independently optionally include one double or triple bond;

R₆ is hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), or -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), wherein said alkyl and cycloalkyl may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy or fluoro group;

R₇ is hydrogen, methyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, hydroxy, -O(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -O(cyclopropyl), -COO(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -COO(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -OCF₃, CF₃, -CH₂OH, or CH₂OCH₃;

R₁₁ is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, ethoxy, or methoxy;

R₁₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl;

R₂₂ is independently at each occurrence selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, C₃-C₆ alkenyl, C₃-C₆ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), and (C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl);

R₂₃ is independently at each occurrence selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, C₂-C₈ alkoxyalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), aryl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)aryl, piperidine, pyrrolidine, piperazine, N-methylpiperazine, morpholine, and thiomorpholine;

R₂₄ and R₂₅ are independently at each occurrence selected from hydrogen, -C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, especially CF₃, -CHF₂, CF₂CF₃, or CH₂CF₃, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)OH, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-O-(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-O-(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl), C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), aryl, and -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(aryl), wherein the -C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl groups can each independently optionally be substituted with aryl, CH₂-aryl, or C₁-C₄ alkyl, and can optionally include one or two double or triple bonds; or, when R₂₄ and R₂₅ are as NR₂₄R₂₅, -C(O)NR₂₄R₂₅, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)NR₂₄R₂₅, or -NHCONR₂₄R₂₅, then NR₂₄R₂₅ may further optionally form a 4 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring optionally including one or two further hetero members independently selected from S(O)_m, oxygen, nitrogen, and NR₁₂, and optionally including from one to three double bonds;

R₂₆ is independently at each occurrence selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), aryl, and

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-(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(aryl); and

wherein each m is independently zero, one, or two,

with the proviso that heterocycloalkyl groups of the compound of formula I, II, or III do not include any -S-S-, -S-O-, -N-S-, or -O-O- bonds, and do not include more than two oxygen or S(O)_m heterologous members.

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6. (Amended) A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein Z is O; B is -NHCHR₁R₂, wherein R₁ is -C(O)H, -C(O)(C₁-C₆ alkyl), or -C₁-C₆ alkyl, wherein said C₁-C₆ alkyl is optionally substituted with from one to six fluoro atoms or one or two R₈ independently selected from -C₁-C₄ alkyl, hydroxy and -O-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and wherein R₂ is -C₁-C₁₂ alkyl optionally including from one to three double or triple bonds and optionally substituted with from one three substituents selected from fluoro and C₁-C₆ alkyl; R₅ is phenyl, pyridyl or pyrimidyl, substituted with two or three R₂₇ groups selected from halo, -(C₁-C₄ haloalkyl), -C(O)R₂₄, -OR₂₅, -C(O)NR₂₄R₂₅, and C₁-C₁₀ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from hydroxy, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, and -NR₂₄R₂₅; and R₄ is -C(O)NR₂₄R₂₅.

7. (Amended) A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein Z is O; B is -NHCHR₁R₂, wherein R₁ of -NHCHR₁R₂ is -C(O)H, -C(O)(C₁-C₆ alkyl), or -C₁-C₆ alkyl, wherein said C₁-C₆ alkyl is optionally substituted with from one to six fluoro atoms or one or two R₈ independently selected from -C₁-C₄ alkyl, hydroxy and -O-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and wherein R₂ of -NHCHR₁R₂ is -C₁-C₁₂ alkyl optionally including from one to three double or triple bonds and optionally substituted with from one three substituents selected from fluoro and C₁-C₆ alkyl; R₅ is phenyl, pyridyl or pyrimidyl, substituted with two or three R₂₇ groups selected from halo, -(C₁-C₄ haloalkyl), -C(O)R₂₄, -OR₂₅, -C(O)NR₂₄R₂₅, and C₁-C₁₀ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from hydroxy, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, and -NR₂₄R₂₅; and R₄ is -NR₁R₂, wherein R₁ of -NR₁R₂ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, or -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), and R₂ of -NR₁R₂ is C₁-C₁₂ alkyl optionally including from one to three double or triple bonds and optionally substituted with from one three fluoro atoms.

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9. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of (a) a disorder or condition the treatment of which can be effected or facilitated by antagonizing CRF, or (b) a disorder or condition selected from inflammatory disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies; generalized anxiety disorder; panic; phobias, including social phobia, agoraphobia, and specific phobias; obsessive-compulsive disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; sleep disorders induced by stress; pain perception such as fibromyalgia; mood disorders such as depression, including major depression, single episode depression, recurrent depression, child abuse induced depression, mood disorders associated with premenstrual syndrome, and postpartum depression; dysthemia; bipolar disorders; cyclothymia; chronic fatigue syndrome; stress-induced headache; cancer; irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease; spastic colon; post operative ileus;

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ulcer; diarrhea; stress-induced fever; human immunodeficiency virus infections; neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease; gastrointestinal diseases; eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia nervosa; hemorrhagic stress; chemical dependencies or addictions, including dependencies or addictions to alcohol, cocaine, heroin, benzodiazapines, or other drugs; drug or alcohol withdrawal symptoms; stress-induced psychotic episodes; euthyroid sick syndrome; syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone; obesity; infertility; head trauma; spinal cord trauma; ischemic neuronal damage, including cerebral ischemia, for example cerebral hippocampal ischemia; excitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; stroke; immune dysfunctions including stress induced immune dysfunctions, including porcine stress syndrome, bovine shipping fever, equine paroxysmal fibrillation, confinement dysfunction in chicken, sheering stress in sheep, and human-animal interaction stress in dogs; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type; multiinfarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; hypertension; tachycardia; congestive heart failure; osteoporosis; premature birth; hypoglycemia, and Syndrome X in a mammal or bird, comprising an amount of a compound according to claim 1 that is effective in the treatment of such disorder or condition, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. A method for the treatment of (a) a disorder or condition the treatment of which can be effected or facilitated by antagonizing CRF, or (b) a disorder or condition selected from inflammatory disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies; generalized anxiety disorder; panic; phobias, including social phobia, agoraphobia, and specific phobias; obsessive-compulsive disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; sleep disorders induced by stress; pain perception such as fibromyalgia; mood disorders such as depression, including major depression, single episode depression, recurrent depression, child abuse induced depression, mood disorders associated with premenstrual syndrome, and postpartum depression; dysthemia; bipolar disorders; cyclothymia; chronic fatigue syndrome; stress-induced headache; cancer; irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease; spastic colon; post operative ileus; ulcer; diarrhea; stress-induced fever; human immunodeficiency virus infections; neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease; gastrointestinal diseases; eating disorders such as anorexia and bulimia nervosa; hemorrhagic stress; chemical dependencies or addictions, including dependencies or addictions to alcohol, cocaine, heroin, benzodiazapines, or other drugs; drug or alcohol withdrawal symptoms; stress-induced psychotic episodes; euthyroid sick syndrome; syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone; obesity; infertility; head trauma; spinal cord trauma; ischemic neuronal damage, including cerebral ischemia, for example cerebral hippocampal ischemia; excitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; stroke; immune dysfunctions including stress induced immune dysfunctions, including porcine stress syndrome, bovine shipping fever, equine paroxysmal fibrillation, confinement dysfunction in chicken, sheering stress in sheep, and human-animal interaction stress in dogs; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia

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of the Alzheimer's type; multiinfarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; hypertension; tachycardia; congestive heart failure; osteoporosis; premature birth; hypoglycemia, and Syndrome X in a mammal or bird, comprising administering to a subject in need of said treatment an amount of a compound according to claim 1, that is effective in treating such disorder or condition.
